

Appl. No. 10/620,335
Amendment dated: July 28, 2005
Reply to OA of: May 3, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1(currently amended). A device for treating dysphonia comprising:
a pair of substantially J-shaped supporters each made of a plate of titanium or an alloy thereof for supporting a corresponding one of edges incised at the midline of thyroid cartilage; and a connector made of titanium or an alloy thereof, for joining ~~jointing~~ the pair of supporters apart from each other.

2(original). The device according to claim 1, wherein the alloy has biocompatibility.

Claim 3(canceled).

4(currently amended). The device according to claim 1, wherein said each J-shaped supporter consists of a shorter ~~an anterior~~ supporting part to be disposed on an anterior part of the thyroid cartilage and a posterior supporting part to be disposed on a longer ~~posterior~~ part of the thyroid, and the anterior supporting part is spaced apart from the posterior supporting part by a distance (t) ranging fro 2 to 4 mm.

Claims 6-9(canceled).

10(original). The device according to claim 1, wherein each supporter is formed with through-hole for passing suture therethrough.

Claims 11-(canceled).

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17 (new). The device according to claim 1, wherein said J-shaped supporters have substantially the same shape and size as each other.

18(new). The device according to claim 1, wherein said connector is made of a plate of titanium or an alloy thereof and fixed with the respective curved portion of the J-shaped supporters.

19(new). The device according to 18, wherein said connector has a length of from 2 to 6 mm, the J-shaped supporter having a longer supporting part which has a length of about 8 to about 12 mm and a shorter supporting part having a length of about 1.5 to about 3.5mm. .

20(new). The device according to 19, wherein said connector has a length of from 2 to 6 mm and the J-shaped supporters form mirror images of each other.